



Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee

Date: March 25, 2021

Time: 10-11 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/j/95214439556>

Meeting ID: 952 1443 9556

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Attendees: Clarissa Rowe, Chair (Arlington); Ali Carter (Arlington); George Parsons (Arlington); Paul Fennelly (Arlington); Beth Williams (Concord); Heather Gill (Concord); Paula Vaughn-MacKenzie (Lincoln); BJ Dunn (NPS); Jennifer Pierce (NPS); Richard Canale, Vice Chair (Lexington); Bob Domnitz (Lincoln); Jeanne Krieger (Lexington); Casey Hagerty (Lexington); Dawn McKenna (Lexington); Sheila Page (Lexington); Connie Raphael (MassDOT)

Minutes

1. Approval of minutes of January 23, 2021, and March 4, 2021, meetings.
 - a. Motion: Richard; 2nd: Paula. Unanimous acceptance.
2. FHWA Scenic Byway funding announcement: \$16 million in federal funding is available for national scenic byways. Awaiting more details for eligibility, which are forthcoming via Derek Shooster at MassDOT.
1. Discussion of priorities for formation of subcommittees: Richard Canale proposed the formation of four subcommittees that align with goals in the Corridor Management Plan (CMP): organization and outreach to stakeholders, tourism and economic development, public infrastructure, and land use. Clarissa suggested two subcommittees based on committee member capacity and emphasized that we focus on planning efforts for the semi quincennial celebration. Paul Fennelly agreed. Bob Domnitz asked what the committee can contribute to land use policy and if the Byway should be an historic district in Lincoln. Richard responded that land use is part of the CMP, but so far, the committee has played a mostly reactive rather than proactive role. He suggested

we could make an impact on infrastructure improvements in our communities and averred that land use is the toughest issue to tackle and probably the lowest priority of the goals in the CMP.

Clarissa suggested the following subcommittees:

- a. Outreach, which would do tourism and economic development-related work, and
- b. Planning and Infrastructure, which would create design and use guidelines for the Byway.

Dawn likes the tourism and economic development (ED) committee idea.

Discussion then turned to committee composition and which communities did and did not have a full complement of members. Richard noted that he got a call from Sarah Mattes of the Lincoln Historical Society and suggested that she could be a third committee member for Lincoln, or perhaps a member of Lincoln's Select Board.

Concord and Lincoln both do not have full committee membership. Beth Williams volunteered to be a representative for Concord. It was noted that the Select Board for each town needs to appoint committee members and that the Vice Chair of the committee oversaw keeping track of membership.

Conversation turned back to the subcommittees, and consensus formed around two committees with the following names:

- a. Tourism, Economic Development, and Outreach
- b. Public Infrastructure and Land Use

Committee members will let Ali and Clarissa know what subcommittee they want to join.

2. Town/NPS/MassDOT updates

- a. Concord: submitted technical assistance (TA) concept to MAPC for ED indicators. Also have a grant application into the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism (MOTT) and are awaiting a response on both. Ali will send TA concept submitted by Concord to MAPC to the committee, as it is a joint application with Arlington, Lexington, and Concord. BJ noted that he has an annual/biannual economic impact survey of the Park that he can share.
- b. Lincoln: signed on with Lexington for a TA grant on regionalization of EV charging stations. Minuteman Tech is moving forward with athletic fields construction but no field house. Bob noted that he manages North Side News for Lincoln and publicized the Rt. 2A project and solicited comments from the public. Ali asked to be added to the mailing list.

- c. Lexington: Town Meeting is underway now. Lexington Center Streetscape Plan to be implemented in near future, starts in May.
 - d. Arlington: Local Rapid Response Program grant, in partnership with Lexington and Bedford, held a kick-off meeting this week with goal to drive traffic from Minuteman Bikeway to Arlington Heights, East Lexington and Bedford Center. The project will commence in May. CPA may fund geothermal heating system at the Jason Russell House and work at the Foot of the Rocks monument.
 - e. NPS: FY22 budget put together in April; by May will have a better sense of Park funding. Virtual Patriots Day programming is planned and posted on Rev250 website.
 - f. MassDOT: draft statewide TIP list on MPO website. Connie announced that she is retiring in June and the committee wished her well.
3. Next meeting: April 22, 2021, at 10 a.m.